

## CLAIMS

### What is Claimed is:

1. A sliding control apparatus including:

at least one guide rod;

a slider assembly including at least one partially open passageway for slidably traveling on said at least one guide rod; and

a tension plate mounted adjacent to said at least one partially open passageway so as to bear upon said guide rod, said tension plate being mounted so as to impinge against said guide rod with a variable amount of force thereby varying frictional resistance between said slider assembly and said at least one guide rod.

2. The sliding control apparatus of Claim 1 wherein said tension plate includes a first aperture and is mounted in a recess in said slider assembly, said recess including a second aperture, said second aperture being aligned with said first aperture and a screw passing therethrough, wherein the variable amount of force is varying by varying an extent of insertion of said screw into said second aperture.

3. The sliding control apparatus of Claim 2 further including a handle extending from said slider assembly.

4. The sliding control apparatus of Claim 3 further including a shutter extending from a lower portion of said slider assembly wherein a position of said shutter is controlled by a position of said slider assembly with respect to said guide rail.

5. The sliding control apparatus of Claim 4 wherein said at least one guide rod includes a first guide rod and a second guide rod, and wherein said tension plate bears against said first guide rod.

6. The sliding control apparatus of Claim 5 wherein said first and second guide rods are supported by a structure, said structure further including a slot through which said handle extends.

7. The sliding control apparatus of Claim 6 further including a cross fader apparatus within said structure, and wherein a position of said slider assembly along said first and second guide rods controls said cross fader apparatus.